

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A document reading device comprising:
document transport means for transporting a document;
optical reading means for reading a document image, said
optical reading means being provided with a movable exposure
member which stops at a predetermined reading position and emits
light onto the document;

support means for supporting the document being transported
by the document transport means when the document passes over
the reading position;

a guide member, formed in a predetermined inclination angle
with respect to a flat-plate face of the support means, which serves
as a guide face for guiding the document to the reading position—~~so
as to form a predetermined inclination angle with respect to a flat-
plate face of the support means; and~~

a transport path forming member for forming a transport path
with the support means so that the document which passes over the
reading position can be transported along the flat-plate face of the
support means; ~~and~~

~~—detection means for detecting a leading end position of the
guide member,~~

wherein the optical reading means detects a leading end position, in a transport direction, of the guide member, and the predetermined reading position is set within a range of predetermined distance in a transport direction from the leading end of said guide member as detected by said detection means position, which wherein the predetermined distance is known beforehand to be free from stains on said support member caused by a contact with the document.

2. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a memory section for storing data on an area free from stains based on data on stain appearance frequency of said support means,

wherein the predetermined reading position is set based on the data stored in the memory section.

3. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 1, further comprising:

an opening detection section for detecting an opening of a cabinet which stores said document transport means,

wherein when the opening detection section detects the opening of the cabinet, said detection means detects the leading

end position of the guide member and sets the reading position based on the leading end position.

4. (Currently Amended) A document reading device comprising:

document transport means for transporting a document;

optical reading means provided with an exposure member for emitting light onto the document, said optical reading means being provided for reading the document image by emitting the light from the exposure member at a stop at a predetermined position while the document is being transported by the document transport means, and guiding the reflected light as received by the exposure member from the document which passes over the reading position set according to the predetermined position, to the following optical system so as to sequentially detect the reflected light; and

support means being formed in a flat-plate provided between the exposure member and the reading position, for supporting the document being passed over the reading position, which is being transported by said document transport means, said support means allowing the light and the reflected light to be passed there through,

wherein said document transport means includes a transport path forming member which is provided in such a manner that the

reading position is sandwiched between said transport path forming member and said support means, said transport path forming member forming a transport path with said support means so as to transport the document which passes over the reading position along a flat-plate face of said support means;

said document transport means includes a guide member, formed in a predetermined inclination angle with respect to the flat-plate face of the support means, which serves as a guide face for guiding the document to the reading position ~~so as to form a predetermined inclination angle with respect to the flat plate face of the support means~~; and

the predetermined reading position is set within a range of predetermined distance ~~in a transport direction~~ from a position facing the leading end of the guide member in a transport direction, ~~which wherein the predetermined distance~~ is known beforehand to be free from stains on the support member caused by a contact with the document.

5. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 4, wherein:

the predetermined position is set to a position predetermined distance apart from a position facing the leading end of said guide

member, as detected, and said optical reading means is moved to the predetermined position as detected.

6. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 5, wherein:

at a predetermined timing where it is determined that the position of the leading end of said guide member could have changed from a position detected last time, the detection of the position of the leading end of said guide member is carried out, and the predetermined position is set based on the position of the leading end as detected.

7. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 5, wherein:

at least the leading end of the guide member is formed in color readable by said optical reading means can read by carrying out a scanning exposure by said exposure member.

8. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 1, wherein:

said guide member is made of a flexible material.

9. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 4, wherein:

a part of said support means on a document passing side is movable so that a flat-plate face of said support means on the document passing side is open to outside.

10. (Original) The document reading device according to claim 9, wherein:

said document transport means is stored in a first cabinet so as to be placed on the document passing side with respect to said support means;

said support means and said optical reading means are stored in a second cabinet,

said second cabinet is provided with a document platen for placing thereon a stationary document where said optical reading means read an image of the stationary document by carrying out a scanning exposure by said exposure member, and

said first cabinet is movable relative to said second cabinet so that a document placement face of the document platen is open to outside.